

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00697 161335Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-01 EB-08 COME-00 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 FMC-02 /091 W
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R 161315Z AUG 78
FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1959

UNCLAS ALEXANDRIA 0697

DEPARTMENT PASS AID

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: E AID
SUBJECT: DAMAGE TO EGYPTIAN GRAIN OFFLOADING FACILITIES AT ALEXANDRIA

REF: ALEXANDRIA 0695

1. FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING DAMAGE TO EGYPTIAN GRAIN OFFLOADING FACILITIES AT ALEXANDRIA (REFTEL) JUST OBTAINED FROM R. ADM, GALAL FAHMI (RET.), CHAIRMAN, ALEXANDRIA PORT AUTHORITY.

2. GRAIN OFFLOADING FACILITY HAS THREE UNITS: TWO, EACH WITH A CAPACITY OF 2,000 TONS PER DAY, HAD BEEN IN SERVICE PRIOR TO THE ACCIDENT; ONE NEW UNIT, WITH A CAPACITY OF 10,000 TONS PER DAY, WAS NOT YET OFFICIALLY IN SERVICE, BUT WAS BEING USED AT LEAST PART TIME.

3. DAMAGE WAS TO ONE OF THE SMALLER, 2,000 TON-PER DAY, UNITS. THIS UNIT IS BEING REMOVED, AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE NEW UNIT AND THE SECOND SMALLER UNIT WILL BE BACK IN SERVICE IN ABOUT ONE WEEK. AT THAT TIME, OFFLOADING CAPACITY OF FACILITY WILL BE 12,000 TONS PER DAY.

4. PENDING REPAIR OF OFFLOADING FACILITY, PORT HAS SET ASIDE
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SIX RPT SIX BERTHS FOR GRAIN SHIPS (INSTEAD OF USUAL FOUR) IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN HIGH LEVEL OF IMPORTS. TOTAL GRAIN OFFLOADED AUG. 15 WAS 11,000 TONS.

5. ARTICLE PAGE 3, AL AHAM TODAY INDICATES THAT GRAIN SHIPS ARE ALL BEING DIVERTED TO PORT SAID. ACCORDING TO FAHMI, THIS IS NOT ACCURATE. GOE EARLIER TOOK ACTION TO DIVERT TWO GRAIN

SHIPS TO PORT SAID; HOWEVER, THIS WAS DONE BEFORE THE DAMAGE TO THE GRAIN OFFLOADING FACILITY AND THE REASON WAS THAT THESE SHIPS WERE BEYOND THE NORMAL CAPACITY OF THE PORT OF ALEXANDRIA.

6. COMMENT: ADM. FAHMI APPEARS TO BE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO CONTINUE HIGH LEVEL OF GRAIN IMPORTS THROUGH ALEXANDRIA. SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY, ALEXANDRIA SHIPYARD, AND OTHER ENTITIES HAVE BEEN ASKED TO COOPERATE TO PUT EQUIPMENT BACK INTO WORKING ORDER. WE WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE SUBJECT CLOSELY AND REPORT PROGRESS ON REPAIR OF FACILITY. MCCLELLAND

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Message Attributes

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